

6 Afghan groups agree on peace formula

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (R) — Six Afghan Mujahedeen groups have agreed on peace formula that calls for a ceasefire in the current fighting in Kabul and elections in less than a year. Mujahedeen sources said here Sunday. The Pakistani and Saudi ambassadors to Afghanistan brokered the formula that was agreed at meeting of the groups at the eastern Afghan town of Jalalabad, the sources said. The participants to the isolated meeting included hardline Mujahedeen leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's Hezb-e-Islami party, which has been fighting President Burhanuddin Rabbani's government for the past 13 days. There was no immediate word of response from Mr. Rabbani, whose Jamiat-e-Islami party was not represented at the meeting. The sources said the formula also envisaged the revival of a leadership council, representing nine main Mujahedeen parties, which Mr. Rabbani says no longer exists after the convening of a controversial assembly last month that elected him president for the next two years and created an interim parliament. "Now we have our own parliament and the president, and anyone who wants to solve the Afghan problem can go to the president or can do so through the parliament," Noorullah Esmad, an envoy of Mr. Rabbani, said in Peshawar Saturday.

Volume 17 Number 5222

AMMAN MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1993, SHA'BAN 9, 1413

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

Yemen sends envoy to Syria

DAMASCUS (R) — Yemen's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Abd Al Aziz Al Dali arrived in Damascus Sunday and held talks with President Hafez Al Assad. The Syrian Arab News Agency quoted Mr. Dali as saying he had brought a message for Mr. Assad from Yemeni President Ali Abdallah Saleh. He said that during his three-day visit he would hold talks with Syrian officials on Arab and international affairs and bilateral relations.

Kuwait seeks to end invasion probe row

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait, seeking to end a wrangle over a parliamentary probe into Iraq's 1990 invasion, has set up a committee to improve ties between parliament and government, a newspaper said Sunday. Minister of Labour and Social Affairs Jassem Al Aoum told Al Watan newspaper the three-man committee would bring parliament and government closer on points of difference. The dispute centres on a parliamentary fact-finding committee probing all aspects of Iraq's invasion including the role of the Kuwaiti armed forces. Parliament, which has criticised many aspects of government policy since its election in October, is reviewing government performance and legislation since it last sat in 1986.

Bishari represents Libya at league

CAIRO (AP) — Libya's former Foreign Minister Ibrahim Al Bishari Sunday took office as his country's delegate to the Arab League. Mr. Bishari, who lost his ministerial position in a cabinet reshuffle in November, presented his credentials to the league's secretary-general, Esmat Abdul Meguid. He is replacing Ali Treki. The new Libyan delegate said there are contacts between the 21-member league and a seven-member committee on Libya to help solve the country's crisis with the West. The committee, formed by the league last year, has made no progress so far. Libya has been under arms, air and diplomatic sanctions since April for its refusal to hand over to the United States or Britain two Libyans charged with blowing up Pan Am 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland in Dec. 1988. Libya denies the charge and has said it is willing to surrender the two to a country where they can be guaranteed a fair trial. It has said Washington and London do not meet this condition.

Lebanon, Syria hold military talks

DAMASCUS (AP) — Lebanon's army chief, General Emile Lahoud, arrived Sunday at the head of a high-ranking army delegation for talks to increase cooperation with Syrian forces. Gen. Lahoud was greeted at the Syrian-Lebanese border by Syria's chief of staff, Major General Hikmat Shehata. The group drove to the Defence Ministry in Damascus for talks. The Syrian Arab News Agency said discussions would focus on ways of developing cooperation between the two armies in various fields. Syria is the main power-broker in Lebanon, with some 40,000 troops deployed in northern and eastern areas as a peace-keeping force.

Sanaa kidnap bid foiled

SANA (AP) — A Canadian man foiled the attempted kidnapping of an American woman in downtown Sanaa overnight, a corporate executive said Sunday. It was the latest incident of lawlessness here involving westerners. On Jan. 24, Yemeni tribesmen kidnapped German-born Canadian Mike Schmitz of Edmonton, Alberta, and are still holding him. He works with Sterling Air Services, a shipping company. A Sterling executive, who insisted on anonymity, said the latest incident occurred about midnight Saturday (2100 GMT) as the American woman and a Sterling employee were leaving a party at a private home near the Taj Sheba Hotel in downtown Sanaa. He said that five Yemenis accosted the couple and tried to bundle the woman into a taxi. He said that Rob Barnett, a Canadian in his 20s, was able to fight them off. Their arrests were announced.

Israel hints at 'goodwill' step to head off sanctions

Rabin interrupts cabinet meeting to meet U.S. envoy

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin interrupted a cabinet meeting Sunday to meet a U.S. envoy trying to avert U.N. sanctions against Israel over its expulsion of 415 Palestinians.

After the meeting between Mr. Rabin and U.S. Ambassador William Harrop, Elyakim Rubenstein, cabinet secretary and a senior peace negotiator, hinted Israel was considering a goodwill gesture to head off sanctions.

Acked about local press reports that Israel would allow one third of the Palestinians to return, Mr. Rubenstein told reporters: "I can't speak in terms of numbers."

He said a military review of evictees' files launched after Israel's high court upheld the expulsions last week "may have some results."

Mr. Rabin's office would not discuss his 30-minute meeting with Mr. Harrop, but Health Minister Haim Ramon said later: "It was more linked to the administrative detention," said the serve army colonel.

The U.N. Security Council has

invited Israel to take the evictees back at once from their tent camp between Israeli and Lebanese army lines in south Lebanon.

The new Clinton administration in Washington is anxious to defuse the crisis and to avoid alienating Arabs by vetoing sanctions. U.S. newspaper reports said Washington was pressing Mr. Rabin for a compromise.

Suggestions that have circulated include the return of some evictees and the shortening of others' terms of exile, now up to two years.

Government spokesman Uri Dromi said Saturday Mr. Rabin might show "flexibility," although he is a hawk on "security" and his prestige is at stake because he personally proposed expulsions.

One possibility is that, as the U.N. debate nears, Rabin may favour returning a number of men, perhaps 30, whose deportation would be committed to administrative detention," said the Middle East peace talks.

Egypt said Sunday the Israeli high court ruling upholding the expulsions had further complicated the crisis and the Middle East peace talks.

"The Israeli high court decision

added more complications to the issue of the Palestinian deportees and to the peace process," a Foreign Ministry statement said.

It said Foreign Minister Amr Musa, who was set to start an official tour of Africa, had decided to return directly to Egypt from a Switzerland visit to concentrate on the crisis.

"In view of the current developments and circumstances which require intensification of contacts with the parties concerned and with the United Nations, Foreign Minister Amr Musa decided to postpone his trip to African states which was due to start on Sunday," the statement added.

Mr. Musa decided to postpone his trip to Namibia, Zimbabwe and Kenya because the new developments require "intensified contacts with the concerned parties and at the United Nations level."

Mr. Musa flew to Israel earlier

(Continued on page 5)

Bouez says U.S. sought more time over evictees

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The United States has asked Lebanon to give it time to solve the problem of nearly 400 Palestinians expelled by Israel, Lebanon's foreign minister said Sunday.

Foreign Minister Faris Bouez said the Lebanese government and the Arab League had not fixed a date for a possible visit to Lebanon by Arab League Secretary-General Esmat Abdul Meguid.

We told Secretary General Abdul Meguid: "Let's wait a bit because the Americans asked us to give them a short breathing space for their efforts to solve the deportees issue," Mr. Bouez told Reuters.

"There is no decision on the visit yet," he said.

Dr. Abdul Meguid announced Saturday that he would travel to Lebanon to visit the Palestinians in the next few days.

Washington wants to defuse the crisis before the United Nations Security Council meets to consider sanctions against Israel, to save it alienating Arabs by vetoing such a move.

U.S. Ambassador William Harrop met Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on Sunday to discuss ways to avert sanctions.

The Lebanese government has

barred everyone but journalists from entering the evictees' makeshift camp through territory under its control. Officials said Dr. Abdul Meguid had asked Beirut if a visit to the camp would be allowed.

The expellees, visibly buoyed by the killing of two Israeli soldiers, refused Sunday to accept any Israeli proposals that fell short of their demand to be allowed to return home.

They said they were heartened by the killing of two Israeli soldiers in the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip Saturday.

The 396 Palestinians celebrated for hours in their tent camp late Saturday after Israel announced the first fatal attack on troops in the occupied territories since their mass expulsion on Dec. 17.

They urged the United Nations to impose tough sanctions this week to force Israel to take them back as demanded by security Council Resolution 799 and dared Washington to veto the step.

"We will not back down one inch over our firm position. We will only accept the total implementation of resolution 799," Abdul Aziz al Rantisi, the group's leader told reporters.

Israel expelled the men, all suspected supporters of Hamas and Islamic Jihad movements, on Dec. 17 in retaliation for the slayings of six Israeli troops (see separate story).

Sunday claim was the second by a fundamentalist Palestinian group.

On Saturday, Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine — Battalions of Al Aqsa claimed responsibility for the attack.

Neither of the claims could be independently verified.

Israel has blamed Hamas for the attack.

The Battalions of Al Aqsa said the attack was to avenge the death of Omar Khans Yousef Al Goula "who was assassinated by the hands of Zionist treachery."

Goula, who commanded a military unit of the Islamic Jihad group, died on Jan. 27, becoming the 1,000th Arab killed by Israel in the five-year uprising, according to an unofficial Return count.

Military sources said troops shot him when he drew a pistol during a chase.

"One of our groups, the battalion of martyr Ahmad Omar Halas, carried out a heroic operation this morning (Saturday) against an Israeli military patrol in Khan Yunis to avenge the death of comrade Omar Goula," the group said in a statement faxed to Reuters.

The group returned safely to its base after the attack which lasted for 40 minutes killing two Zionist soldiers and wounding three others," it added.

The group is one of five factions into which Palestinians say Islamic Jihad has splintered in recent years.

Ezzedin Al Qassam — the military wing of Hamas — said the ambush was in retaliation for

"Certainly after the connection

(Continued on page 5)

2 groups claim Gaza ambush

Combined agency dispatches

THE FUNDAMENTALIST Hamas movement Sunday claimed responsibility for the shooting deaths of two Israeli soldiers in the occupied Gaza Strip Saturday.

Hamas said in a statement faxed to news agencies in Amman that the ambush Saturday was in retaliation for "the court decision of the terrorist Rabin and the persistence of the enemy in delaying the return of the (expellees) to their homeland and their families."

Hamas said in a statement faxed to news agencies in Amman that the ambush Saturday was in retaliation for the court decision of the terrorist Rabin and the persistence of the enemy in delaying the return of the (expellees) to their homeland and their families."

It referred to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and the Israeli high court ruling last Thursday that his expulsion of some 400 Palestinians in December was legal.

Israel expelled the men, all suspected supporters of Hamas and Islamic Jihad movements, on Dec. 17 in retaliation for the slayings of six Israeli troops (see separate story).

Sunday claim was the second by a fundamentalist Palestinian group.

On Saturday, Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine — Battalions of Al Aqsa claimed responsibility for the attack.

Neither of the claims could be independently verified.

Israel has blamed Hamas for the attack.

The Battalions of Al Aqsa said the attack was to avenge the death of Omar Khans Yousef Al Goula "who was assassinated by the hands of Zionist treachery."

Goula, who commanded a

military unit of the Islamic Jihad group, died on Jan. 27, becoming the 1,000th Arab killed by Israel in the five-year uprising, according to an unofficial Return count.

Military sources said troops

shot him when he drew a pistol

during a chase.

"One of our groups, the battalion of martyr Ahmad Omar Halas, carried out a heroic operation this morning (Saturday) against an Israeli military patrol in Khan Yunis to avenge the death of comrade Omar Goula," the group said in a statement faxed to Reuters.

The group returned safely to its base after the attack which lasted for 40 minutes killing two Zionist soldiers and wounding three others," it added.

The group is one of five factions into which Palestinians say Islamic Jihad has splintered in recent years.

Ezzedin Al Qassam — the military wing of Hamas — said the ambush was in retaliation for

"Certainly after the connection

(Continued on page 5)

Sharif Zeid urges deputies to be realistic on civil service hirings

Deputies to form panel to study appointments list

By Ayman Al Safadi
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker Sunday urged deputies to take into consideration the country's social and economic realities in investigating alleged injustices in civil service appointments as the Lower House formed a committee to check a list of government appointments for unfairness in granting work opportunities to job seekers.

Sharif Zeid made his statement to the House as deputies were debating how to approach a request submitted by 15 deputies earlier this month to discuss what some of them called "an unfairness that can intensify the social threat of unemployment."

"Pressure that accompanies (government) appointments by all sides is a fact known to all," Sharif Zeid told the House during a session held to "exchange views with the government" on alleged nepotism and favouritism in civil service appointments.

They said they made the request in light of the House's

informing the House of recent measures the government took to ensure fairness in public hiring, the prime minister called for joint national efforts to "treat obvious imbalances in the administrative apparatus."

Sharif Zeid made his statement to the House as deputies were debating how to approach a request submitted by 15 deputies earlier this month to discuss what some of them called "an unfairness that can intensify the social threat of unemployment."

"Pressure that accompanies (government) appointments by all sides is a fact known to all," Sharif Zeid told the House during a session held to "exchange views with the government" on alleged nepotism and favouritism in civil service appointments.

They said they made the request in light of the House's

Finance Committee's report that

nepotism, favouritism and para-

lysts were widespread in govern-

ment bureaucracy.

The government first cited pro-

cedural irregularities for refusing to provide the list which it later made available to the House. Deputies however did not receive copies of the list because its size, according to House Speaker Latif Arabiyat, made it impossible to photocopy and distribute.

After a heated debate during which deputies differed on how to tackle the issue, the House voted on a motion of Husni Shiyab to form a special committee to study the government list and provide the House with a report of its findings.

They said they made the re-

quest in light of the House's

(Continued on page 5)

Azziz: Iraq deserves more credit for compliance

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq said Sunday it expected the new U.S. administration to give it more credit for complying with Gulf war ceasefire terms than former U.S. President George Bush had claimed.

"This question can be discussed bilaterally and within the Security Council in an objective professional manner. The new administration will realize that a great deal of implementation has taken place already," he told interviewer David Frost.

The United States and its British and French allies renewed an attack on Iraq in January on the grounds that it was flouting U.N. resolutions adopted after the Gulf war.

Baghdad, seeking to ease more relations with Washington, has

called for a new chapter in relations with Washington to repair rela-

tions with Washington and show it is complying.

But the senior U.N. nuclear inspector in Iraq said the ban should not be lifted until Baghdad comes clean on which foreign firms supplied its nuclear weapons programme.

Maurizio Zifferero, head of a team that failed for Bahrain Sun-

day, also said that without long-term monitoring, there was no way to ensure Iraq will not again seek to develop a nuclear weapon.

Iraq has so far rejected such monitoring.

But he told reporters that pre-

Middle East News

JORDAN TIMES, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1993

U.S. works to set up Somalia police force — American envoy

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. forces are working to organise a Somali police force in Mogadishu in the next few days to allow U.S. Marines to stay out of areas of the city where they are in danger of attack, U.S. envoy Robert Oakley says.

In an interview in the Washington Post, Mr. Oakley said the Mogadishu force will be made up of former police officers and some former army generals and colonels.

"We can't afford to wait. We have people out in the street getting shot," Mr. Oakley told the newspaper.

One U.S. Marine was shot and killed in Mogadishu Monday night and another was killed last month while on patrol.

The United Nations was to set up the Somali national police, but Mr. Oakley said the United States decided to go ahead and do it because of the threat bandits posed to U.S. forces.

With the absence of local security forces and the collapse of the Somali warlords' militias, many young men who still are heavily armed have been drawn into banditry.

"The armies have disintegrated. They can't loot (relief supplies). They don't have any reason d'être... they do what they know how to do, which is use their weapons," Mr. Oakley said.

"We got sucked more deeply into the city — which is why we little need a police force, so we can pull out," he said.

U.S. Marines arrived in Somalia on Dec. 9, assigned to secure routes for distribution of food to famine victims. The establishment of a Somali police force was to be handled by the United Nations when the U.S. work was completed.

U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali said Wednesday it could take up to six months for the United Nations forces to assume command from U.S. forces.

U.N. sources said Secretary of State Warren Christopher planned to visit the United Nations Monday to discuss the withdrawal

of American forces from Somalia and consider a U.N. request that American logistics units stay behind U.N. command.

Mr. Oakley said a small U.S. force could be left behind to prevent warlords from moving heavy weapons back to Mogadishu.

A U.S. raid on a "hotbed of banditry" turned up only one old rifle, but a joint U.S.-Botswana raid on a weapons bazaar was more successful.

About 700 members of the U.S. army's 10th Mountain Division descended on Afgoi, a ramshackle town of 40,000 people, an hour before sunset Saturday in search of helicopters.

They tried to flush bandits and weapons from the dark streets and alleys. But in the first four hours of searching they found only one weapon: A World War II-vintage rifle.

Major Marty Culp, a spokesman for the U.S.-led military coalition, said the sparse results of the early hours of the operation were not an indication of failure.

Outside, Yosouf Muman, 36, one of the captives, explained the group had merely gotten together to chew khat, a mildly narcotic plant that takes the place of liquor in Somalia.

"It's a good idea, the soldiers looking for guns," said Mr. Muman, once an employee of now-defunct Somalia Air Lines. "We have no problem with that. But we've been terrorised a bit. All we were doing was having a little social gathering."

The soldiers having found nothing in the house, left without apology and the Khat Party continued.

Hours before the sweep began, army units quietly sealed off the major roads leading into and out of the town.

One of those roads leads from Mogadishu to Baidoa, a major food distribution point in south-central Somalia, the epicenter of the famine belt.

Gen. Culp said clan members had been operating in the area, "setting up roadblocks, conducting ambushes and extorting merchants."

Troops kill four Muslim militants in Algeria

ALGIERS (R) — Troops and gendarmes shot dead four Muslim fundamentalists and wounded three in Algeria at the weekend, with one gunbattle blazing round the home of a mosque preacher.

Para-military gendarmerie headquarters, quoted by Algiers Radio Sunday, said security forces acting on a tip surrounded 10 Islamic militants in the preacher's house in Tabouret, Bouira province, 90 kilometres southeast of the capital.

"Two terrorists were killed and three wounded during a clash... five of the group fled after taking their companions' weapons," the gendarmerie said.

In another combined operation, troops and gendarmes killed two fundamentalists in mountains near Khemis Al Khechma, 30

Sanbar to monitor Eritrea referendum

AMMAN (J.T.) — The U.N. secretary-general has announced the appointment of Lebanese Samir Sanbar, director of Information Centres Division of the Department of Public Information (DPI), as his special representative for the United Nations mission to Verify the Referendum in Eritrea (UNOVER). The appointment at the assistant secretary-general level. The referendum process in Eritrea, begun in July 1992, phases, namely, nearly, the registration of voters, the referendum campaign and the poll.

The mandate of UNOVER is

to verify the impartiality of the referendum authorities and organs; complete freedom of organisation, movement, assembly and expression; and equal access to media facilities and the proper drawing up of the roles.

The mission will also report to the referendum authorities on complaints, irregularities and interferences, and observe all activities related to the referendum, including registration of voters, organisation of the poll, the campaign, the counting, computation and announcement of results — ESCWA press release

Carey to press for return of expellees

CAPE TOWN (A.P.) —

Archbishop of Canterbury George Carey said Saturday the Anglican Church would urge the United Nations to force Israel to allow hundreds of Palestinian exiles to return home.

The issue of the more than 400 Palestinians was one of several debated by Anglican bishops, clergy and laity during a two-week meeting at the University of the Western Cape outside Cape Town.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Archbishop Carey told reporters the delegates had urged the enforcement "with... vigor" of the United Nations Security Council resolution calling for the Palestinians to be permitted to return to their homes in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"Our concern was humanitarian, our concern was moral. We thought it was actually morally wrong, the way that those poor people are being treated," said Archbishop Carey, leader of the world's 70 million Anglicans.

The Palestinians were expelled Dec. 17 for alleged connections to hardline Muslim groups and have been stranded since then in a tent camp in southern Lebanon.

Archbishop Carey met both President F.W. De Klerk and African National Congress (ANC) President Nelson Mandela during his visit. Last

month (December) the University of Jordan and Saddam University for Islamic Studies signed an agreement to enable the exchange of students and academics for seminars, conferences and joint research and supervision for post-graduates. Travel further afield is more difficult. Because the Iraqi dinar is so weak against foreign currencies the expense required to attend a conference outside the region is simply beyond most universities' means.

Not only are basic necessities for higher education unavailable in Iraq, but with the collapse of the domestic economy and prices inflated many hundredfold in some cases, students and universities are unable to afford what is on sale. A pencil, for example, which in 1989 cost only 200 fils now costs two Iraqi dinars at its official exchange rate.

"Everything has been affected by the embargo. Whether it's finding pens, pencils, or paper to use in class, or obtaining current sources," said an English translation student from Al Mustansiriyah University.

Many students say that they are forced to find employment in addition to their studies to help support their families.

Mohammad Omar, an undergraduate at the University of Baghdad, which is the largest university in Iraq with approximately 50,000 students, said he works night shifts as a waiter in a hotel. He earns 25 Iraqi dinars a day which would purchase two kilos of rice or half a kilo of fish at current prices.

Despite the sanctions, however, academics maintain that standards have been kept high in the country's universities.

Dr. H. Salih, dean of Management and Economics College, said that students were expected to produce work of the same quality as before the embargo. "Whoever writes a doctorate thesis has to contribute to knowledge and since they need up-to-date information to do this, we expect people to find the articles despite the economic embargo," he said.

Although most students and academics feel better towards the West because of the continuing enforcement of the sanctions, Fahed Al Shagra, the president of the National

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.	
Min./Max. temp.	
Amman	2.5
Agaba	5.14
Deserts	2.7
Jordan Valley	6.12
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 12, Agaba 18 Humidity readings: Amman 52 per cent, Agaba 45 per cent.	
Dr. Maan Bargawi	(—)
Alquds pharmacy	(—)
ZARQA: Dr. Fawaz Hamdallah	903644

Khalid pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre	637111
Civil Defense Department	611111
Civil Defence: Immediate Response	630341
Civil Defence Emergency	169
Rescue Police	152, 621111, 637777
Fires pharmacy	661912
Ferdous pharmacy	778336
Al Asmaa pharmacy	637053
Nairoukh pharmacy	623672
Al Salam pharmacy	636730
Yacoub pharmacy	644945
Saints pharmacy	637660
Najroukh pharmacy	623672
Najib pharmacy	847632
Water and Sewage Complaints	897467
Amman Municipality	897111
Complaints	787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance)	121
Oversize Calls	010230
Central Amman Telephone	

Repairs

Abdul Telephone Repair

Army, Marka

Queen Alia Hospital

Radiant

Water Authority

Jordan Electricity Authority

Electric Power Company

RJ Flight Information

RJ Al Amman Int'l. Airport

ZARQA: Zarqa Govt. Hospital

Ibn Sina Hospital

Al Hilwa Modern Hospital

ERBID: Princess Basma Hospital

Greek Catholic Hospital

Al Nates Hospital

Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh

Army, Marka

Queen Alia Hospital

Radiant

Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh

Queen Alia Hospital

Radiant

Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh

Queen Alia Hospital

Radiant

Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh

Queen Alia Hospital

Radiant

Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh

Queen Alia Hospital

Radiant

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:

Hussein Medical Centre

Khalid Maternity, J. Amm

Akhdar Maternity, J. Amm

Jabal Amman Maternity

Mutha, J. Amm

Palestine, Shmeissani

Shmeissani Hospital

University Hospital

Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh

Queen Alia Hospital

Radiant

Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh

Queen Alia Hospital

Radiant

AI-BASHIR, J. ASHRAFIEH

QUEEN ALIA HOSPITAL

RADIANT

AL-BASHIR, J. ASHRAFIEH

QUEEN ALIA HOSPITAL

RADIANT

AL-BASHIR, J. ASHRAFIEH

QUEEN ALIA HOSPITAL

RADIANT

AL-BASHIR, J. ASHRAFIEH

QUEEN ALIA HOSPITAL

RADIANT

AL-BASHIR, J. ASHRAFIEH

QUEEN ALIA HOSPITAL

RADIANT

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06) 33200-5, where it should always be verified.

FOR THE TR



Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker meets with representatives of the Jordan-Canada Business Council Sunday (Petra photo)

Sharif Zeid meets Jordan-Canada Business Council

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker Sunday expressed the government's eagerness to support the Jordanian private sector and the efforts of the newly-formed Jordan-Canada Business Council (JCBC).

Speaking at a meeting in his office with members of the council, inaugurated Saturday at the Amman Plaza Hotel, the Prime Minister said the Jordanian government would facilitate the council's work so that "available opportunities can be utilised in order to achieve further progress in the country and maximise interaction between Canada and Jordan in the interests of the two nations."

The Prime Minister was briefed on the council's "plans and programmes to stimulate trade, economic and industrial relations between Canada and Jordan in an effort to give momentum to the Jordanian economy which has witnessed constant and progressive development," said a statement following the meeting.

The statement said the council will exert efforts towards increasing the volume of trade between Canada and the Arab world through Jordan.

Amman Chamber of Industry President Mamdouh Abu Hassan, in an address at the opening session of the council's meeting, said "within a radius of 600 miles from the Jordanian port of Aqaba, trucks can cover by land the capitals of Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates with a total population exceeding 100 million."

Canada's ambassador to Jordan Andrew Robinson said in the meeting Saturday that his country attached importance to the World Bank's structural adjustment programme and the strengthening of Jordan's natural resources management.

"As part of our programme we will be providing policy and structural adjustment support, particularly in the planning and implementation of policy reforms in natural resources management," the ambassador said.

Attending the meeting at the Prime Minister's office were Minister of Water and Irrigation Samir Kawar, the acting Minister of Industry and Trade, and Ambassador Robinson.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Prince Hassan visits Army Headquarters

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Sunday visited the Armed Forces Headquarters where he was received by Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Field Marshal Fathi Abu Taleb, the Chief of Staff of the land forces, and a number of assistants. Prince Hassan met for a while with Field Marshal Abu Taleb and discussed with him issues of common interest to the Armed Forces. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and Royal Court Chief Khalid Al Karaki. The briefing was attended by the acting Minister of Finance and directors of the General Intelligence and Public Security Departments, as well as senior Armed Forces officers.

Land use symposium calls for new law

AMMA (Petra) — Participants in a two-day symposium on the land use Sunday called for enacting a new regional planning law saying that such a law will provide a legislative umbrella linking national plans with city and village organisations. At the end of its sessions, the participants to the symposium recommended that the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment make the necessary amendments to the law on organisation of cities and villages, which dates back to 1966, pending the issuance of a new law. Participants also called for reconsidering the regional development plans in an effort to ensure that such plans are in line with the comprehensive national planning process. The symposium stressed the need for preparing plans on the land use in the various provinces and regions, benefiting from specialised maps prepared by the ministries and institutions concerned. Participants also called for establishing a data-base to provide information on land use to planners and decision-makers.

PSD announces arrival of pilgrims

AMMAN (Petra) — Palestinians living in Arab territories occupied since 1948 will arrive in Jordan Wednesday en route to Mecca in Saudi Arabia, where they will be performing Umra (minor pilgrimage), according to Public Security Department (PSD) sources. The PSD called on Jordanian citizens wishing to host any of the Palestinian pilgrims to call at the PSD station in Ghor Nimeen, near the King Hussein Bridge, to finalise the necessary procedures, before they can put up any of the guests. The PSD called on citizens to produce either a passport or a family registration book, which will be kept with the PSD, together with the guest's permit.

Poets invited to Baghdad festival

BAGHDAD (Petra) — Several Jordanian poets will take part in Iraq's celebrations of the second anniversary of "the mother of all battles." The higher committee of the Mother of All Battles festival has extended invitations to Jordanian poets to participate in a poetry festival which will be held in Baghdad Feb. 9-13. Poets from around the Arab World are expected to take part in the festival. Iraq's celebrations of the second anniversary of the Gulf war started Jan. 17 and included the inauguration of several development projects and several cultural events.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Exhibition entitled "Modernist Still Life Photographed" at the American Centre.
- ★ Medical book exhibition at Al Bashir Hospital.
- ★ Exhibition of watercolour paintings by Syrian artist Nazir Nab'a at Baladina Art Gallery — opening ceremony at 6 p.m.
- ★ Plastic art exhibition by Abed Bani Yassin and Nawaf Maadeel at Deir Abee Saeed Girls' Secondary School.

ITALIAN FILM WEEK

- ★ English-subtitled Italian film entitled "Disamistate" at the Royal Culture Centre at 8 p.m.

"With the new administration

Landslide victory in Salt elections

AMMAN (J.T.) — Assistant Governor Mohammad Al Faour late Saturday announced the results of the Salt municipal council elections.

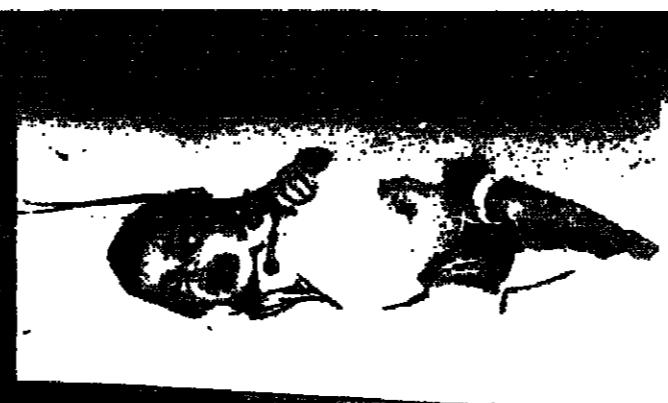
Twenty-three candidates belong to two blocs, the Reconstruction bloc and the Justice for All bloc, and an independent candidate ran for the 11-member council.

The Reconstruction bloc secured a landslide victory winning nine seats.

The Justice for All bloc took two seats.

The highest number of votes went to Wishah Al Wishah with 2,918 votes, followed by Subhi Al Balbous with 2,879, Tayseer Al Hadidi with 2,665, Nayef Al Awamli with 2,637, Fares Arabyat with 2,603, Ahmad Khreisat with 2,492, Hashem Al Hiyari with 2,366, Yousef Barbour with 2,052 and Salem Ghneimat with 2,025 votes.

Out of 15,147 eligible voters 8,958 cast their ballots in Saturday's election.



Two-week-old baby pulls through surgery to remove cancerous tumour, at Al Bashir Hospital Sunday (Petra photo)

Doctors remove tumour from two-week-old

AMMAN (Petra) — Doctors at Al Bashir Hospital Sunday performed successful surgery on a two-week-old baby, born with a liver tumour.

Dr. Abdul Hadi Breizat, who performed the surgery with a medical team, said he removed the left part of the baby's liver, which was affected by the cancerous tumour.

Dr. Breizat said the surgery was the first of its kind in Jordan, adding that this was a rare case.

He said liver cancer accounts for 2 to 3 per cent of children's cancers. It affects children during

Arabs must be pragmatic, says Hisham Sharabi

By Sa'eda Kilani
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A more pragmatic view of U.S. policy towards the Middle East is necessary to enhance the Arab-Israeli peace process, according to Hisham Sharabi, professor of history at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.

"The U.S. is a key player whether we liked it or not," Dr. Sharabi said during a lecture at the University of Jordan Saturday. "It is of vital importance to any solution in the region, regardless of our evaluation of its style (of action)," he added.

While a pro-Israel stand was part of U.S. President Bill Clinton's platform during the presidential race, Dr. Sharabi believes that there might now be a relative change from the previous U.S. administration's "hostile stand" towards the Middle East that is bound to be dictated by current events in the international arena.

He said that most of those appointed by President Clinton are not of "traditional Zionist" affiliation as many may think in the Arab milieu; most of them are moderate, and one of them is an advocate of the Israeli Peace Now movement, he said.

One participant to the lecture criticised the Arab way of thinking that a change of U.S. presidents means a change in policy which he says does not necessarily apply to the Middle East as it does to other countries such as Vietnam and Panama.

"We should not pay any attention

to any change in presidency since it will not affect us (the Arabs) as it affects the events in other regions... we have to realise that the danger in front of the Arab World is Israel, planted in the middle of our societies and threatening our existence," the participant said.

Dr. Sharabi answered that this was common knowledge among concerned parties; nevertheless, the Madrid Middle East peace conference was destined to take place because there was an interest to all parties in a political settlement.

"The solution that the negotiations entail is now backed up by leading American personalities as well as by Israeli public opinion," he said.

"We must not sit back and say until differences are settled and until Arab unity is established," he said. "Diplomatic and political action have to be envisaged within the possible resources in our hands, regardless of our personal differences."

On the Palestinian level, at understanding between the national and Islamic forces have to be reached, otherwise the enemy will make use of the rising differences and invest them to our own advantage," Dr. Sharabi stressed.

While some participants voice doubt over any positive change in the region, Dr. Sharabi said pessimism must not reign and unified efforts must be exerted towards the betterment of our societies.

"Not Israel, nor the West, nor America will ruin us," he said. "We exist and we will continue to fight; but it is for us to decide if this fight will be for an advanced society or for a humiliated one," he said.

If peace talks are to continue and bear fruit, there ought to be strong coordination on three levels, according to Dr. Sharabi.

On the international level, European countries must have a more active role in the peace talks as "this would be a significant and vital contribution to the advancement of the Palestinian action and position in the peace talks," he said.

On the Arab level, Dr. Sharabi said differences among Arab countries should be swept aside and more concentration should be spearheaded towards the adoption of a unified stand in the peace talks.

"We should not sit and wait until differences are settled and until Arab unity is established," he said. "Diplomatic and political action have to be envisaged within the possible resources in our hands, regardless of our personal differences."

On the Palestinian level, at understanding between the national and Islamic forces have to be reached, otherwise the enemy will make use of the rising differences and invest them to our own advantage," Dr. Sharabi stressed.

While some participants voice doubt over any positive change in the region, Dr. Sharabi said pessimism must not reign and unified efforts must be exerted towards the betterment of our societies.

"Not Israel, nor the West, nor America will ruin us," he said. "We exist and we will continue to fight; but it is for us to decide if this fight will be for an advanced society or for a humiliated one," he said.

If peace talks are to continue and bear fruit, there ought to be strong coordination on three levels, according to Dr. Sharabi.

Parties' compliance aids legalisation

BEIRUT (J.T.) — The legalising of some political parties in Jordan last month, after their applications had first been rejected, was not a change of heart on the part of the Ministry of Interior, but rather a response to the recommendations of an ad-hoc committee charged with examining such cases, according to Interior Minister Jawdat Al Shouf.

The ministry had demanded that these parties introduce amendments to the parties' names and programmes, and conform to the political parties regulations.

In a statement to the Beirut-based magazine Al Usbu Al Arabi, the minister said that in a dialogue with the ministry, these political groups agreed to the amendments.

Asked to comment on Arab interior ministers' decisions taken in Tunis on Jan. 5, which were interpreted as calling for a crackdown on Muslim fundamentalism, Mr. Shouf said Jordan adopted a well-known stand representing the country's pan-Arab

orientation.

Jordan's position is an extension of and similar to those of other Arab countries as it adheres to objectivity and refuses all forms of fanaticism and seeks wise moderate policies, the minister said.

Not a single meeting in Tunis was held in secret, the minister added.

Jawdat Al Shouf

Ministry to announce water network tenders

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Ministry of Water and Irrigation's Water Authority will announce a tender this week for the water network in the northern city of Ramtha in the Irbid governorate, according to Minister Mutazz Al Bilbeisi.

Mr. Bilbeisi said in a statement to the Jordan Times that the project entails operating the newly-laid network and replacing the old part of the network which is leaking and worn out.

The project also involves linking homes with the main network, the secretary general added.

Declining to give any figures,

Mr. Bilbeisi said the major cost of the project, which will be implemented within the first quarter of 1993, will be covered by the government.

The secretary general said that several tenders are also being processed to replace the old water network in Amman. Tender documents have been prepared for various parts of the project, and one tender has already been awarded to a local firm, he said.

Nearly JD 50 million will be spent on the replacement of water networks in Jordan's cities including Irbid Salt, Mafraq, and North Shuneh as well as Ramtha and Amman, the minister said.

Mr. Kawar said a JD 10 million tender has already been awarded to local firms for the Irbid project, which is being partially financed through a loan from the European Investment Bank.

The present networks cover 97 per cent of the Kingdom's four million people.

Aziz: Iraq deserves more credit

(Continued from page 1)

such a list is provided.

For months Iraq has refused to provide it, saying it was a matter of protecting confidential, sovereign trade. But recently Iraq agreed to supply answers to specific questions from the inspection team.

Iraq says the United Nations already knows about 90 per cent of the names, about 80 companies, and now is willing to discuss the remaining 10 per cent.

Mr. Zifferero said the past week's inspection was routine and no new sites were visited. He said officials still were working on a long-term monitoring plan which he phased in.

He again complained that Iraq still has not formally accepted two U.N. resolutions on long-term monitoring to ensure that it never again seeks to develop weapons of mass destruction.

Mr. Zifferero said he would know whether Baghdad was prepared to answer questions submitted by U.N. suppliers when the inspection team returned to Iraq within the next few weeks.

In what could foreshadow further problems, he said the most controversial inspections were probably yet to come.

Mr. Aziz, speaking in the BBC television interview, said his country had no intentions of launching any fresh attack on Kuwait, but would not say whether Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein had renounced all claim to the emirate.

Iraq has made political overtures to new U.S. President Bill Clinton about improving relations.

"With the new administration

we would like to open a new chapter. As far as Iraq is concerned we would like to have normal relations with the United States of America," Mr. Aziz said.

Asked whether Iraq had plans to attack Kuwait again, Mr. Aziz said: "We have no such intentions." But he would not be drawn on whether President Saddam had renounced Iraq's territorial claims to Kuwait altogether, saying only that "this chapter is closed."

Mr. Aziz linked freedom for two Britons imprisoned in Baghdad to the release of Iraqi assets.

In what could foreshadow further problems, he said the most controversial inspections were probably yet to come.

Mr. Aziz, speaking in the BBC television interview, said his country had no intentions of launching any fresh attack on Kuwait, but would not say whether Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein had renounced all claim to the emirate.

Iraq has made political overtures to new U.S. President Bill Clinton about improving relations.

"With the new administration

PRIVATE LESSONS IN (ITALIAN - FRENCH - ENGLISH)

A teacher is ready to give private lessons

in the above languages

(Beginners & advanced levels)

In addition to conversation lessons

Those interested call:

661136

before 5 p.m.

JOB OFFER

A. UNIQUE PUBLIC RELATIONS POSITION IS AVAILABLE FOR A WELL-EDUCATED MALE OR FEMALE WITH THE FOLLOWING QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Perfect command of Arabic and English; knowledge of other languages would be useful.
2. A degree in one of the following subjects : Political Science, History, Law, International Affairs, Economics. The minimum requirement is a Bachelor's degree; a Master's degree is preferred.
3. Up-to-date on national and international affairs.
4. International experience is preferred.

Please send a resume, cover letter and recent photograph to the following address by February 20th, 1993 :

The Director
P.O.Box 885
Amman - Jordan

</

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation.

Established 1975

جريدة تحرير يومية عربية مستقلة تصدر باللغة العربية من المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية

Chairman of the Board of Directors:

MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Faximile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the
Jordan Times advertising department.

Crisis management

PRIME MINISTER Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker was right to convene a meeting for the heads of the Audit Bureau, the Civil Service Commission (CSC) and the Administration Control and Inspection Bureau (ACIB) and to caution them against unfair and wrong practices in filling governmental job vacancies. This has been the calling of this prime minister and in fact other prime ministers before him at about this time of every past year. Unfortunately though no concrete results had been achieved in the past so that this government does not have to deal with such problem. It appears that the country has developed deep-rooted or built-in traditions to play favouritism whenever any public sector position becomes vacant or is created to help combat unemployment.

Sharif Zeid knows that pious admonitions or official exhortations cannot achieve the desired results simply because it has become a second nature for officialdom to do the wrong thing when government jobs are filled. That is why perhaps a new thinking about the whole issue has to start taking place.

The only effective way to make appointments sound and fair is to make those responsible for the selection of new civil servants more fair themselves, which may be a tall order in itself. The basic complementary way to accomplish the goal of fairness in this vein is to institutionalise the mechanism of sifting through the candidates' files on the basis of objective criteria. As long as the central government refuses to come to grips with this issue in all its dimensions, all efforts that aim to do more justice in filling vacant jobs in the public will remain mere ink on paper.

Our senior officials must also realise that the other side of hiring personnel, namely that of firing officials from their jobs, must also be fair. It is common knowledge that retiring governmental employees or terminating their employment prematurely is sometimes done on the basis of the personal whims of their bosses. We cannot possibly ignore the inherent wrong in a love or hate relationship between superiors and subordinates in civil service where if friendship is secured there is no limit to the errors of judgement or mistakes that can be committed by officials with impunity. Vice versa, if there are personal frictions, real or imaginary, the slightest dispute can be blown out of proportion and serve as a ready-made pretext to get rid of any unlucky public servant targeted by his superior.

It must be acknowledged that Jordan is still part of the developing countries' club and therefore remains subject to its ways and standards, no matter how much rhetoric is deployed to paint rosy pictures. It is almost a fact of life in all underdeveloped countries to carry on governing in a style that befits under-development with all its trimmings. Until and unless Jordan graduates from this "club" through the running to full course the dynamics of modernisation we simply have to put up with this malaise till better times reach us. Should this continue to be the case, the most that the country can aim for at the time being is crisis management or containment of the problem through the kind band-aid measures that we have been taking for ages.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AS A FURTHER manifestation of the double-standard policy adopted by the United Nations under pressure from the United States, mediators in Switzerland are now trying to find a compromise solution to the problem of the expellees, which does not ensure their repatriation, said Al Ra'i daily Sunday. The paper said that while the United States is exerting all efforts to delay any meeting by the Security Council over this matter, and while Washington pursues contacts with the Israelis reassuring them of its support, there are attempts aimed at convincing some of the deportees to return and others to be flown out to another destination but not their homeland. Attempts to achieve this goal clearly violate Security Council Resolution 799 and constitute a bid to avoid forcing Israel to comply with the world community's orders, the paper continued. Should these mediation efforts succeed, the paper said, they would show that the world community has succumbed to Israel's desires and whims and accepted Israel's intransigent position. Escaping any punitive action, Israel will no doubt be encouraged to escalate its atrocities against the Palestinians, killing or deporting more and more Arabs who seek freedom from the occupation, the paper pointed out. The paper said that if Israel was allowed to have its way in this matter, a deadly blow would be dealt to the so-called international legitimacy and the rule of the jungle would come out victories, to the detriment of a permanent and just peace in the Middle East.

A COLUMNIST IN Al Ra'i daily expressed the view that the financial grants which Turkey received recently from the Gulf states were only a reward paid for Ankara's hostile attitude towards Iraq and offered by the Gulf states under instructions from Washington and its allies. Tareq Masarweh said that Turkey does not and could not play the role of the defender of the Gulf states in the event of an Iranian attack on them simply due to its limited power and also because the United States forces are in the region providing protection to them. At the same time, Ankara does not have any influence in the Islamic republics of the former Soviet Union, due to an agreement between Moscow and Washington that these republics remain within the Russian sphere, the writer pointed out.

Weekly Political Pulse

Elections should take place on time, after all

By Waleed Sadi

THERE is apparently a strong current among many parliamentarians who call for giving the current Lower House of Parliament a new lease on life by extending its life span a year or more. The justification offered for this proposition is unfinished business associated with the continuing efforts to formally establish political parties in the country. Obviously, there are several factors that need to be taken into consideration when this unusual demand is to be weighed legally and politically. The primary consideration, of course, is the impact such a drastic step, if taken, would have on the fragile and embryonic democratic process in the country.

It must be recalled that parliamentary life in Jordan was kicked off with much fanfare and enthusiasm after a long and damaging hiatus caused by the interruption of the general elections cycle by the 1967 Arab-Israeli war and the separation of the West Bank and the East Bank. The assumption that the parliamentary representatives of the people elected before 1967 could continue to speak for their constituents and reflect faithfully their thoughts and aspirations was proven wrong time and again, throughout the period that preceded the reintroduction of pluralistic democracy in the country in 1989.

The basic rationale behind rejecting the thesis that parliamentarians can continue to serve as lawful representatives of the people of the country beyond their term is clearly the principle that voters have the inalienable right to hold their spokesmen or spokeswoman accountable every four years. This right cannot and should not be violated or interfered with unless there is a state of emergency, which is not the case nowadays. Besides, electors cast

their votes for their representatives in 1989 with the clear understanding that their term in office will end in four years. Upon the lapse of the four years, parliamentarians lose their legitimacy as people's representatives and forfeit their right to speak for their people. Against this backdrop, it would be less damaging from the democratic process' point of view to suspend parliamentary life than to prolong the duration of Parliament.

From a broader political point of view, Jordan has been boasting about its new political style domestically, regionally and internationally. To suspend the cycle of electioneering now would clearly cast internal and external doubts on the depth of the democratic tradition in the Kingdom, especially at a time when Jordan is capitalising to the fullest on the development and consolidation of democracy. Granted, it would be much better to have formally organised political parties before the country conducts its general elections. But the absence of legally constituted and organised political parties did not prevent the country from going ahead with its 1989 parliamentary elections. As a matter of fact, there was a widespread thought that in spite of the absence of political parties, the Kingdom can still forge a democratic process.

Another point needs to be made in this vein. The whole country knew in 1989, as it is now fully appreciated and recognises, that there were and are in the country de facto political currents and parties. To suspend elections till these political formations acquire a de jure status and have sufficient time to spread their gospel is simply untenable and, on balance, counterproductive. There is nothing inherently wrong in allowing Jordanians to go to the

election booths on schedule this year and use the next four years for the purpose of finishing up the job of formally organising political parties, not only in terms of registration with the Ministry of Interior but also in terms of giving their constituencies ample time to comprehend what they are preaching.

It so happens that Jordan is treaty obliged, under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to conduct elections on periodic basis. It is doubtful that the tribunal that monitors state parties' adherence to the covenant would accept the argument now being orchestrated by some parliamentarians that the unfinished business of forming and registering political parties could serve as a legitimate reason to interfere with the democratic process that was painstakingly set into motion only four years ago. Over and above these considerations, the National Charter never envisaged interrupting the democratic process due to the insufficient time left for establishing political parties. There is not the slightest hint in the Charter that such an exigency could offer a politically sound argument in favour of freezing the democratic system in the Kingdom once again and so early after it started.

His Majesty King Hussein's pronouncement has effectively put an end to the lingering speculations about this subject when he told a group of Jordanian journalists that he sees no reason to justify any delay in holding general elections on schedule this year. That was a timely intervention that serves to put the record straight on the continuation of the democratic process, unimpeded by special interests of one faction or another.

Conservatism and fundamentalism in historical perspective

By Dr. Mohammad Rabie

MUCH HAS been written about the revival of religious fundamentalism and its causes and motives. Islamic fundamentalism, in particular, has attracted tremendous attention because of its tendency to resort to violence to achieve its objectives. However, Hindu radicalism in India appears today to be much more violent than Islamic extremism in Egypt, Algeria or even Lebanon. The Jewish Kach religious movement in Israel and the United States has also adopted extremist methods and developed racist thesis to exclude and eliminate non-Jews in Israel. Certain Christian factions in Yugoslavia, in Latin America, in the Philippines and in the United States have also adopted unlawful and immoral tactics to exclude and demonise the other.

But despite the profound im-

proved that the West, despite its wealth and power, was very much vulnerable to the disruption of oil supplies as well as to political instability in poorer regions of the world. By the end of the 1970s, the era of diminishing expectations finally arrived in the West as its logic had begun to influence people's thinking and remodel their world views and social behaviour.

In the East and the Third World, however, this era began to emerge in the mid-1970s due to the failure of both the political and economic systems of Marxism and Third World socialism. The failure was expressed in the systems' inability to live up to their promises and thus to meet people's expectations. And by the early 1980s, particularly after the eruption of the Third World debt crisis in 1982 and the col-

old institutions usually assume a leading role in debating the present and shaping the future. Religion and the moral values it espouses usually become a major source of individual solace and communal inspiration. Conservatism, meanwhile, becomes a socio-political and national ideology aimed at building a future based on a vision of a more comfortable past.

Nevertheless, peoples, particu-

larly oppressed nations and minorities, have always resorted to religion and invoked cultural traditions as means to preserve national and communal identities in the face of socio-economic disorientation and future uncertainty.

Yet, they are values, institu-

tions and ideologies whose time has long passed and whose limits had long been exposed and recognised.

As such, they are nothing more than convenient means to express frustration, to protest the inadequacy of the existing socio-political order or simply to escape reality and postpone facing the inevitable.

As this change was taking

place, conservatism, traditionalism and religious fundamentalism were moving gradually towards convincing people to place ethnic allegiance and personal security, particularly financial security, ahead of national obligations and economic opportunity. And this in turn made people less optimistic regarding the future, expecting less from it and willing to accept less than the present, with its unpleasant anxieties, had to offer.

Thus an historical era, charac-

terised by a general human

scepticism that the future does

not promise as much as the past

did and a resigned acceptance of

the less than was expected to

come, had finally arrived and became fully established. And because of its traditional ideological roots and conservative socio-economic outlook, the era of diminishing expectations has become a powerful force influencing both the present and the future.

In the West, the mood of the

era of diminishing expectations

expressed itself more in socio-

economic conservatism and less

in religious fundamentalism.

This was primarily due to the

fact that most Third World

nations have remained basically

traditional in their behaviour

and outlook and lacked the

freedom of speech and most

civil society institutions.

As a result, the primary

change these societies sought,

as the era of diminishing expecta-

tions arrived, was in areas related

to the belief system anchored in

religion and to the political sys-

tem emphasising nationalism and

cultural particularism.

On the other hand, the collapse

of communism and the end of

the cold war have moved almost

all previous Marxist states towards

a combination of western eco-

nomic conservatism, political democ-

raticism and Third World narro-

wationalism and cultural particu-

larism. It is a combination that

allows extremism to be expressed

rather freely and employs demo-

cracy to create majority dicta-

tories that exclude and discrimi-

nate against the other, particu-

larly against national, ethnic and

religious minorities. And because

the age of diminishing expecta-

tions had been late in arriving in

these countries, religious funda-

mentalism are expected to last

well into the first decades of the

twenty-first century, causing

great human and political damage

before being exposed and con-

tained.

Today, the consequences of

conservatism can be seen in the global economic recession, in the European unusually high unemployment rates and loss of political upheavals, severe economic dislocations and much ideological and intellectual disorientation.

In fact, a careful look at the political map of the world will reveal that there is almost no country today that does not face major political, economic and/or social problems. At the same time, no troubled country, including the richest and most powerful, seems to know with confidence how to deal with its problems and how to restructure its fractured or embattled social, economic and political systems. In addition, the traditional tools of economic analysis and economic management, and the political tactics of gaining and maintaining control and legitimacy, seem

vastly inadequate. Meanwhile, life complexity has rendered the nation-state system, regardless of the size, power and wealth, too small to handle most international problems and too big to deal with most domestic issues. A rupture in our human historical process seems to have occurred, causing the past to become of little help to guide us into the future, while making the future less certain as judged by the past.

As this change was taking place, conservatism, traditionalism and religious fundamentalism were moving gradually towards convincing people to place ethnic allegiance and personal security, particularly financial security, ahead of national obligations and economic opportunity. And this in turn made people less optimistic regarding the future, expecting less from it and willing to accept less than the present, with its unpleasant anxieties, had to offer. Thus an historical era, characterised by a general human scepticism that the future does not promise as much as the past did and a resigned acceptance of the less than was expected to come, had finally arrived and became fully established. And because of its traditional ideological roots and conservative socio-economic outlook, the era of diminishing expectations has become a powerful force influencing both the present and the future.

In the West, the mood of the era of diminishing expectations expressed itself more in socio-economic conservatism and less in religious fundamentalism. This was primarily due to the separation of religion and state and the existence of institutions of political pluralism and freedom of speech. As a result, socio-economic and political conservatism were able to mount in the early 1980s a successful comeback and subsequently dominate the West's economic thinking, political organisation and social attitudes in general.

In the East and the Third World, however, this era began to emerge in the mid-1970s due to the failure of both the political and economic systems of Marxism and Third World socialism. The failure was expressed in the systems' inability to live up to their promises and thus to meet people's expectations. And this in turn made people less optimistic regarding the future, expecting less from it and willing to accept less than the present, with its unpleasant anxieties, had to offer.

Thus an historical era, characterised by a general human scepticism that the future does not promise as much as the past did and a resigned acceptance of the less than was expected to come, had finally arrived and became fully established. And because of its traditional ideological roots and conservative socio-economic outlook, the era of diminishing expectations has become a powerful force influencing both the present and the future.

In the West, the mood of the era of diminishing expectations expressed itself more in socio-economic conservatism and less in religious fundamentalism. This was primarily due to the separation of religion and state and the existence of institutions of political pluralism and freedom of speech. As a result, socio-economic and political conservatism were able to mount in the early 1980s a successful comeback and subsequently dominate the West's economic thinking, political organisation and social attitudes in general.

In the East and the Third World, however, this era began to emerge in the mid-1970s due to the failure of both the political and economic systems of Marxism and Third World socialism. The failure was expressed in the systems' inability to live up to their promises and thus to meet people's expectations. And this in turn made people less optimistic regarding

House panel to study appointments

(Continued from page 1)

The House failed to agree on the composition of the committee and finally limited its membership to nine and asked deputies interested in joining it to register their names at the executive office.

The house will elect a committee if its membership is not settled at the executive office.

While some deputies argued that the formation of the committee diluted the seriousness of the issue and "stole" deputies' right to discuss the issue, others agreed it was the best way to ensure an objective and thorough study of government appointments.

And even though the House agreed not to discuss charges of unfairness in government appointments until after the committee has submitted its report, some deputies who took the floor

reiterated charges that malpractices existed in government hiring procedures and demanded an immediate end to such actions.

Dr. Arabyat said deputies who have information on nepotism in granting government appointments should present it to the House for debate.

Deputy Leith Shbeilat said "a lot of talk about such practices is heard in the corridors of the House" but is not presented under the dome of parliament.

Deputies, however, agreed not to come forward with information they have about unfair government action until the "fact-finding committee" they formed prepared its report.

The House did not set a date by which the committee should finish its work and is expected to do that Wednesday when it agrees on the committee's members.

Bread prices go up as of today

(Continued from page 1)

However, officials have repeatedly sought to reassure the low-income groups that a total elimination of subsidies for staples was not planned but that a concerted approach aimed at ensuring that only the needy benefit from the subsidies would be followed.

The bulk of the subsidies is spent on wheat; bread by extension. And officials believe that part of it is not reaching the right target that it is aimed at.

"A lot of the subsidised wheat/bread is being misused," said a senior official. "In some areas people feed bread to their cattle since it is actually a lot cheaper than fodder."

According to the official, who preferred anonymity, the annual consumption of wheat in Jordan has gone up from 400,000 tonnes a year to 600,000 tonnes — an increase which is not justified even after taking into consideration the presence of up to 300,000 expatriates who have returned home and a noted boost in the number of tourists visiting the Kingdom.

Sugar, rice and milk powder are available only to Jordanian citizens under a coupon system introduced in 1990 in what was described by officials as a means

to ensure that hotels and foreign nationals do not benefit from state subsidies for these items.

The introduction of coupons — which are available only to those who possess the national family registration books — is estimated to have saved the treasury around JD 15 million annually.

The officials argued that it was virtually impossible to introduce a coupon system for bread or to streamline it to ensure that bread subsidies are available only to those who actually need it.

"Why should the government subsidise bread for the rich or the middle-income group or the hotels and restaurants?" asked the senior official. "They won't be hard put to pay the full price of wheat and bread in the international market."

"Subsidies have to be eliminated altogether, sooner or later," said the official. "But that does not mean that it would hurt the poor and the needy."

"We have to find the right mechanism to ensure that the needy and the below-poverty-line people are not affected negatively with the withdrawal of subsidies," the official said.

"There are several ways and means under consideration to achieve this objective," he added without elaboration.

Israel hints at 'goodwill' measure

(Continued from page 1)

this month and handed over a letter from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to Mr. Rabin. But Egypt's efforts to solve the crisis have made no tangible progress so far.

During his four-day stay in Switzerland, Mr. Musa held talks with his Israeli counterpart Shimon Peres who was also attending an international conference.

U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali recommended last week that the Security Council approve whatever steps were necessary to force Israel to allow the Palestinians back home.

Nabil Shaath, political adviser to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat, said sanctions were the only

means left to force Israel to comply.

"We will go to Chapter Seven of the United Nations Charter. We will ask for sanctions to be enforced (on Israel). We will ask for the same measures that Boutros-Ghali has recommended," Dr. Shaath told Reuters.

"Everything must be done to make Israel comply ... otherwise it will contradict two years of practice by the United States which has convinced Security Council members not to use the veto in cases of international peace and human rights," he added.

Dr. Shaath said the PLO would call for an emergency Arab foreign ministers' meeting if the Security Council failed to act fast.

Israel detains two Arab-Americans

(Continued from page 1)

we revealed, I think that international public opinion should reconsider the attitude, the double attitude to Israel," Mr. Shahal said after the weekly cabinet meeting where ministers were briefed on the arrests.

For the past several weeks, Israeli officials and media have sought to establish a connection between Hamas and the United States.

While the government statement mentioned hundreds of thousands of dollars in transfers, it only listed specifically only his name.

Two groups claim ambush

(Continued from page 1)

the Israeli high court's ruling Thursday upholding the expulsions.

"This is the Al Qassam Brigades. We take responsibility for the killing of the two soldiers. It was in retaliation for the high court's decision to approve the deportations," the group said in a telephone call to an international news organisation in occupied Jerusalem.

Qassam has claimed responsibility for the December attacks, two ambushes of Israeli army vehicles and a kidnap-killing.

Military censors delayed publication of the Saturday attack for 14 hours pending notification of the soldiers' families.

An Israeli officer told reporters two assailants penetrated a security fence surrounding a Jewish settlement's hothouses, then hid behind bushes near the fence until the three soldiers passed in a jeep on an adjacent dirt road.

Gaza commander Brigadier General Yom Tov Samye said the assailants opened fire from a

range of five metres.

He said the jeep stopped about 30 metres away. The patrol commander, lightly injured, jumped from the jeep and fired at the assailants, who hit the jeep with some 25 bullets.

Military sources said one of the soldiers killed was a reservist, the other a bedouin. Bedouin soldiers generally serve in the Israeli army as trackers.

The assailants took the dead soldiers' weapons and left behind a submachine gun and six ammunition magazines, they said.

A curfew was clamped immediately on the Khan Yunis area near the attack site after the shooting, and troops fanned out in search of the assailants.

Arab reports said a five-year-old girl was shot and wounded in the ear when troops opened fire on alleged curfew violators. Fourteen other Palestinian youths were reported wounded by gunfire or beatings in clashes after a second ambush on soldiers in Jabalya refugee camp in which none of the troops were injured.

New season opens for 'Welcome, new world order'

Show's artistic quality stirs controversy

By Sawsan Ghosheh
Special to the Jordan Times

that theatre-goers and lovers are asking.

AMMAN — "Welcome, New World Order" reopened Jan. 25 again bringing forth controversy. It is "Welcome, new world order" more of a social phenomenon than an artistic one, or is it a social phenomenon expressed in an artistic form? Can this show be called theatrical art or is it more of a stand-up comedy show? These are some of the questions

According to Nabil Sawhal, co-writer of and actor in Welcome, new world order, this show is a "multiplicity of ideas put within a personal theatrical form with a wide margin of liberty." It addresses subjects that affect people's daily lives and it touches on people's pains and problems, he adds.

Hisham Yanis, co-writer and

actor, sees this show as posing some question: Where do Jordan, human rights and the Arab World stand in this new world order?

Welcome, new world order has had the highest attendance of all Jordanian plays. Mr. Yanis believes this show is popular because it reflects "what everybody wanted to say but could not" in the past. That is why, he says, people identify with the show.

The play has been criticised by some artists for "lacking elements of theatrical art."

Zein Ghanma, a stage director and fine arts teacher, says: "In some ways, the show is a piece of art. Some of the acting is done well and that is a form of art, but it is not a complete and coherent piece of art. So there are things that are artistic about it, but all in all no. Some parts are really amateurish."

Mr. Sawhal says these accusations are due to "the standard thinking of putting things into frames to be able to deal with them. It usually comes from people's lack of imagination."

Both he and Mr. Yanis describe their show as a revolutionary form of art that "torn the frames of the old forms of thinking."

Mr. Ghanma, defending their way of expressing things, said that other artists, not used to the democratic process that Jordan is experiencing, hide behind symbols because it is difficult to be blunt and straightforward. He believes that in the future other artists will follow in their footsteps. Adding that Jordan had suffered from the international literature complex, foreign plays translated into classical Arabic.

"These plays have been unsuccessful because they did not have the spirit of the country and therefore, isolated the people."

Mr. Sawhal says that art should relate to the people in order to be successful and well-



Welcome, new world order

Rafsanjani expects U.S. to move on ties

(Continued from page 1)

matter for the Iranian supreme court.

Mr. Mayar, whose arrest was disclosed last November, had operated a travel agency, and Iranian officials alleged his activities involved "links with agents of foreign intelligence services."

Mr. Rafsanjani denied Iran was experiencing economic problems and indicated he would run again for president next June.

He repeated Iran's long-held position that it was willing to cooperate with Iraq if Baghdad frees prisoners taken in the 1980-89 Iran-Iraq war and pays compensation.

He called for "bilateral negotiations" to resolve a dispute with the United Arab Emirates over Iran's efforts to take full control of three disputed islands in the Gulf — Abu Musa and the Greater and Lesser Tubs. The dispute has strained relations with the UAE and its Arab allies in the Gulf.

"We are trying to settle the problems we have with some countries through peaceful means," he said. "But we will never compromise on our principles."

Mr. Rafsanjani rejected charges that Iran had aggressive intentions towards oil-rich Arab neighbours across the Gulf.

Mr. Rafsanjani, who became president after the death of Ayatollah Khomeini, vigorously defended the Iranian revolution's record and his period in office during two and a half hours of critical questioning by foreign reporters.

He said Iran was trying to be a good neighbour and to improve ties with other countries.

Mr. Rafsanjani, who has been working towards a greater political and economic liberalisation, asked why Iran was being asked to change.

"They (the U.S. and the West) must change in relation to us. It is the U.S. that has oppressed us before and after the revolution," he said. "They wanted to continue their imperialist attitude towards this nation, ... if we had done something to oppress others, then we should also change," he added.

He said an improvement in U.S.-Iranian ties did not seem possible for the moment. "It is incompatible with public opinion and the goals of the revolution," he added.

Mr. Rafsanjani rejected charges that Iran had aggressive intentions towards oil-rich Arab neighbours across the Gulf.

JORDAN MARKET PLACE

THE PROFESSIONALS ALWAYS CHOOSE THE RELIABLE

PACKING, AIR FREIGHT
FORWARDING, DOOR-TO-DOOR
SERVICES AND
DELIVERIES. CUSTOMS
CLEARANCE, TICKETS
AND, RESERVATIONS.

AMIN KAWAR & SONS
TEL: 604676 604696
PO BOX 7806
AMMAN

**CROWN
INT'L EST.**
Packing, shipping,
forwarding, storage,
clearing, door-to-door
service
Air, Sea and Land

Agents all over the world
Tel: 664090
Fax: 690852
P.O.Box 926487 Amman

PEKING RESTAURANT
120
Authentic Chinese dishes,
from all great regional
cuisine styles of China.
Prepared by our
Chinese chefs
Open daily for
lunch & dinner
Take away service
Jabal Al Hussein
Ministry of Trade & Industrial Rd.
Tel. 667755

**XEROX
Copy Centre**

- Copying ■ Typing
- Binding ■ Faxing
- Plan printing

Tel: 698804 - 6831813

STUDIO HAIG

Professional Quality in
1 Hour Service
Develop your colour film at
our shop and get:

* JUMBO photo
size 30% larger

* Foto enlargement
20 x 30 cm

Shmeisani - Opp. Grindlays
Bank. Phone: 604042
Swissotel tel: 823891

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT

Mecca Street, Yarmouk
Engineers' Housing
Estate, near Kilo
Supermarket
Mongolian Barbecue for
Lunch Friday only

Tel: 818214

Come and taste our
specialties

Open daily 12:00 - 3:30
p.m.

6:30 - Midnight

Tel. 638968

Every great city in the world has its China
Town and Amman now has its own.

Where you can enjoy the most exquisite
Chinese dishes for lunch and dinner.

Banquet and take away service

All chefs from Peking, China

Chen's

at the Amman Plaza Hotel

Tel. 674295 or 674111 - ext. 6338

4 RENT & SALE

- Many villas and apartments are available for rent and sale, furnished or unfurnished.

- Also many plots of land are available for sale.

For further details, please call:

Abdoun Real Estate
Tel.: 810605/810509
Fax: 810520

MANDARIN RESTAURANT

Special Chinese Foods Skilled Chinese Chefs

Open 11:30-1:30 & 6:00-11:30 daily

Take away is available

Wadi Salqa Road

near Philadelphia Hotel

Tel: 661922, Amman

Once Tasted
Always Loved

DAROTEL

French Cuisinc

Sports

Courier wins Australian Open

MELBOURNE (AP) — Jim Courier kept his cool under a blazing sun Sunday, even when Stefan Edberg turned up the heat. Courier won 6-2, 6-1, 2-6, 7-5 in the men's singles final at the Australian Open.

In a repeat of his finals victory over Edberg last year, the 22-year-old American thrived in stifling conditions that saw air temperatures soar to 40 C. and rise to 67 C. on the synthetic rebound ace court.

"It's always very special to win a Grand Slam. To come back and defend it makes it twice as special," Courier said.

As he did last year, Courier celebrated his win by diving fully clothed into the murky Yarra River for a brief swim with coach Brad Stine.

The river runs alongside the National Tennis Centre complex, and Courier was cheered by dozens of fans.

"At least this year I knew it was the 18th-dirtiest river in the world," he said.

Courier said he found difficulty breathing in the sultry conditions.

"The hotter the better," he said before the match. And the Florida native did cope better with the heat than Edberg, who wilted as Courier kept exerting pressure with a mixture of depth and defensiveness.

"It's quite impossible to play your best tennis in that heat," Edberg said. "In the first two sets I didn't feel like I belonged on the match at all."

Courier roared through the first two sets in 62 minutes, dropping only five points on serve and breaking No. 2 seed Edberg four times.

Edberg then rallied in the third set as the top seed went into an inexplicable slump.

The Swedish two-time champion broke Courier's previously impregnable serve three times and the American appeared to have lost concentration as he made a succession of errors of the kind that were totally alien to his game in the first two sets.

World No. 1 Courier made eight of his 14 unforced errors in the third set as Edberg chipped and charged.

Encouraged, Edberg, ranked No. 2, kept his poise despite making eight foot faults, and pushed Courier right through the fourth set.

It was a stirring comeback, but Courier didn't let it last.

"I just played as hard as I could the whole time," he said. "It was the same temperature on both sides of the court."

The final set took 53 minutes as



Jim Courier of the U.S. holds the Australian Open trophy after beating Sweden's Stefan Edberg Sunday (AFP photo)

both players struggled to keep up with the ferocious early pace. Edberg served five of his nine double faults in the last set.

"He played a great match coming back," Courier said.

Courier raised his hands in triumph, then squatted and

pumped his fists before throwing his cap toward his chair.

He won the fourth Grand Slam title of his career and has a 4-1 record in Grand Slam finals. He has won the last two French Opens.

Overall, it was the 10th singles title of his career and his first since the French Open.

He is now 16-2 in matches at the Australian Open.

Edberg, 27, dipped to 6-5 in Grand Slam finals but paid tribute to Courier.

"He played unbelievable tennis," he said. "He didn't make any mistakes in the first two sets."

Edberg said he would have been against playing the final indoors despite the heat and said he adjusted as the match progressed.

"At one stage I felt like death, but I started to feel a lot better," he said. "I wouldn't have minded playing a fifth set, but he was too strong in the end."

Courier said he, too, would have refused to play if officials had sought to close the centre-court roof to keep out the sun. It was closed several times this week for rain.

"I wouldn't have come out, and then they'd have been real stuck," he joked.

Courier earned U.S. \$278,800 for his victory, while Edberg collected \$139,400.

Edberg discarded his baseball cap in 2-5 in the first set, finding it shaded him but also hampered his serve.

"It didn't work. I wasn't used to it," he said. "I started to watch the cap and not the ball."

He also did not wear the back support he has been wearing after suffering muscle spasms earlier in the tournament.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

In other Premier League

Leeds, beaten at home just once this season although winless away in the league, went further ahead through England midfielder David Batty and defender Chris Fairclough in the last eight minutes.

Sheffield Wednesday extended their unbeaten run to nine games with a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

Financial Markets Jordan Times
In co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank

Foreign Exchange Market Summary (January 25-January 29, 1993)

AMMAN — The dollar surprised many by staging a significant recovery at the end of last week, rising above the psychologically important 1.60 mark level again. The rebound was based on new positive indications of the state of the U.S. economic recovery, but the short-term direction of the dollar remains unclear.

The long anticipated descent of the British pound finally materialised, on the other hand, as sterling dropped below the \$1.50 and below 2.40 marks. The end of the week thus saw the dollar higher by 1.3 per cent against the mark, two per cent higher against the Swiss franc, and 2.9 per cent higher against the pound.

The Japanese currency maintained its resilience, as the yen ended the week 0.4 per cent higher against the dollar.

Having declined by more than two pfennigs the previous Friday, when it closed below 1.60 marks, the dollar lost further ground Monday breaking 1.58 marks to close at 1.57/00 marks in New York.

Analysts attributed the dollar's weakness to changes in short-run market outlook, rather than medium and long term expectations. They maintained that at the end of 1992, many market participants had taken long term positions on the dollar based on expectations that the five per cent differential between U.S. and German interest rates will start to decline by early 1993.

Over the last two weeks, however, expectations became more established that the wide interest rate differential will not decline before the second quarter of the year, as the Bundesbank emphasised repeatedly that it was still too early to cut interest rates.

Moreover, there was uncertainty over the U.S. domestic economic plans of President Clinton, and accordingly towards the near term direction of U.S. interest rates. The December employment report that was released on Jan. 8th only served to fuel further doubts about the pace of the U.S. economic recovery.

The result was that many traders resigned to expectations that the dollar's major appreciation against the mark and other European currencies was still further away, and to the possibility that the dollar is susceptible to further technical declines in the short run. Observers commented that all this uncertainty gave dominance to technical factors and short term considerations, particularly in view of the opportunity cost of holding dollar balances. In the process, some traders even cited 1.53 marks as a possible short term target.

The Bank of England surprised many Tuesday by announcing a one per cent cut in the Base Rate to six per cent; its lowest level in six years. Sterling hence declined significantly, helping the dollar to rise modestly against European currencies.

U.S. GDP figures released Thursday revealed that the U.S. economy grew at a real annualised rate of 3.8 per cent in the fourth quarter of 1992, at a time when market expectations centered on 3.1 per cent only. But the release of a startlingly strong Durables Goods Orders report at the end of the week sparked waves of dollar short covering, which pushed the dollar beyond 1.60 marks, closing in New York at 1.61/13 marks.

Market commentaries reported that the unambiguously strong data, combined with the GDP results, changed the outlook towards the pace of U.S. economic recovery, again, particularly when compared with the rest of the industrialised countries, thus shifting market focus away from the technical domain.

New York Closing Rates for Major Currencies Against the U.S. Dollar

Currency	22/1/93 Close	29/1/93 Close	Percent Change
Sterling Pound	1.5312	1.4870	(2.89)%
Deutsche Mark	1.5900	1.6113	(1.32)%
Swiss Franc	1.4585	1.4880	(1.98)%
French Franc	5.3785	5.4515	(1.34)%
Japanese Yen	125.11	124.65	0.37%

USD Per NGC

Currency	22/1/1993		29/1/1993	
	1-Month (%)	1-Year (%)	1-Month (%)	1-Year (%)
U.S. Dollar	3.00	3.62	3.00	3.62
Japanese Yen	3.71	3.37	3.50	3.31

Interest rate for amounts exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Date: 31/1/1993

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.688	0.690
Sterling Pound	1.0217	1.0268
Deutsche Mark	0.4268	0.4289
Swiss Franc	0.4618	0.4641
French Franc	0.1261	0.1267
Japanese Yen	0.5519	0.5547
Dutch Guilder	0.3790	0.3809
Swedish Krona	0.09420	0.09470
Italian Lira	0.0461	0.0463
Belgian Franc	0.02071	0.02081

CONCORD	
Cinema Tel: 677420	
Kevin Costner and Whitney Houston	
BODYGUARD	
Shows: 12:30, 3:15, 4:00, 8:30, 10:30	
Free Car Parking	

AHLAN THEATRE	
Nabil Al Mashini Theatre	Tel: 675571
Tuesday January 5th marks the opening of the new theatre season presenting: Pandemonium (Ta'a wa Qaimeh)	Daily at 8:30 p.m. Tickets office open all day
	Daily presents at 8:30 p.m. (except Saturdays and Sundays). Extra show Thursdays at 4:30 p.m. "Welcome New World Order Play/93" In a new form. Box office opens daily for booking and reservation.

JORDAN FINANCIAL MARKETS				
HOUSING BANK CENTER AMMAN - REPRESENTATIVE				
TELEPHONE: 660170 / 661170				
ORGANIZED BURGESS SHARE PRICE LIST FOR SUNDAY - 31/01/1993				
COMPANY'S NAME				
20% DIVIDEND PAYMENT - 1992 - CAPITALIZING CAPITAL RESERVE				
VALUATION - CHARGING DATE: 31/12/1992				
PRICES				
JORDAN BANK	187,930	136,000	136,000	136,000
JORDAN NATIONAL BANK	40,762	28,300	30,350	30,350
JORDAN INDUSTRIAL BANK	21,080	22,300	23,320	23,320
JORDAN HOLDING BANK	6,080	4,250	4,200	4,180
JORDAN AGRICULTURAL BANK	14,118	2,530	2,530	2,530
JORDAN ISLAMIC BANK	2,209	4,290	4,280	4,240
JORDAN BANK FOR SAVING & INVESTMENT	10,580	4,200	4,200	4,200
JORDAN INVESTMENT & FINANCE BANK	1,121	2,310	2,570	2,710
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	3,590	3,500	3,500	3,500
JORDAN INSURANCE	2,860	2,820	2,800	2,800
JORDAN LIFE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE	73,544	3,950	3,980	3,980
JORDAN LAND FINANCIAL	4,180	3,370	3,350	3,340
JORDAN LIFE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE	408	2,590	2,720	2,720
JORDAN PETROLEUM COMPANY	12,816	1,710	1,700	1,680
JORDAN ELECTRIC POWER	5,383	1,160	1,140	1,130
JORDAN DISTRICT ELECTRICITY	4,077	2,120	2,120	2,120
JORDAN NATIONAL SHIPPING LINES	3,466	2,700	2,740	2,740
JORDAN PORTFOLIO SECURITIES	134,670	4,830	4,850	4,790
JORDAN GOLD REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT	44,257	4,850	4,850	4,850
JORDAN PETROLEUM & EQUIPMENT LEASING	3,405	1,250	1,250	1,240
JORDAN TRADING & TRADING CENTER	3,110	10,420	10,400	10,350
JORDAN PETROLEUM & EQUIPMENT	28,421	6,200	6,100	5,780
JORDAN PAPER FOUNDATION / ALBA	51,930	11,890	12,050	12,120
JORDAN METAL INDUSTRIES EAST & WESTERN	45,077	2,510	2,510	2,490
JORDAN CEMENT FACTORIES	358,021	1,870	1,890	1,900
JORDAN PHOSPHATE MINES	44,257	4,850	4,850	4,850
JORDAN CHEMICALS & PLASTICS	32,632	2,500	2,500	2,500
JORDAN INDUSTRIAL & AGRICULTURAL	32,632	6,850	6,850	6,600
JORDAN IRON WORKS MILLS	49,059	12,330	12,330	12,330
JORDAN CERAMIC INDUSTRIES	35,864	1,140	1,130	1,140
JORDAN DAIRY	428	2,040	2,140	2,140
JORDAN PLASTIC & CARBONATE	9,653	1,080	1,080	1,070
JORDAN PETROLEUM & CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	34,354	24,000	24,000	24,000
JORDAN UNIVERSAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	14,060	14,060	14,060	14,000
JORDAN INDUSTRIES & PARTNERS	7,775	5,110	5,100	1,480
JORDAN PETROLEUM & CHEMICALS	12,330	4,150	4,110	4,110
JORDAN WOOD INDUSTRIES / JINCO	664,043	9,080	9,210	9,200
JORDAN CHEMICAL & WIRE MANUFACTURING	20,813	4,430	4,430	4,430
JORDAN CHEMICALS FOR PHARM. & CHEMICALS	25,544	2,140	2,140	2,140
JORDAN METALS INDUSTRIES	13,684	3,720	3,720	3,720
GRATED TOTAL	2,784,426			

TO SUIT ALL BUDGETS
VILLA FOR RENT & LOTS OF FLATS, WITH OR WITHOUT FURNITURE

Please call JORDAN PROPERTY CONSULTANTS
Tel: 829882/829883

FOR SALE
Jaguar car - 1981, model X J6 - 4.2. In a very good condition: Sale price: JD 38,000, subject to inspection. Please call: 691356, 691659

FOR SALE
Car - Opel - 1989 Omega 1.8 litre, unpaid custom duties. In excellent condition. Interested, please call 826146 after 17:00 hr.

FOR RENT
MODERN FURNISHED APARTMENTS
• One bedroom, living-dining room, kitchen or bath.
• Studio of one-bedroom, kitchenette and bath.
Central heating & telephones:
Location: Jabal Amman (Zahran quarter) bet. 3rd & 4th Circles.
Owner tel. 667862 - 642351

TO LET
NEW UNFURNISHED FLAT
Between 4th-5th Circles, overlooking Wadi Abdoun, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, living, reception, dining, American kitchen, store, 2 balconies, separate heating & water well.
Contact tel: 667083 (9:00-13:00 & 15:00-18:00)

Soldiers target opposition leaders in Zaire unrest

MELB
Courier
blazing
Stefan
heat. C
7-5 in
the A

In a
over E
year-o
stifling
temper
rise to
rebound

"It's
a Grav
defens
cial."

As
celebr
clothes
River I
Brad

The
Nation
on C
broken

"At
was th
world
Con
break

"I
said I
Flori
with
witer
press
and
"It
your
Edith
I didn't
match

Co
two s
ping
treat
time.
Ec
set a
new
Ti
tion
inspr
and
ave i
a sit
that
W
high
the
and
E
do
mak
out
it
Cot
the
sick

BRAZZAVILLE, Congo (Agencies) — Following two days of riots, troops attacked the homes of government opponents Sunday, killing at least one person, a human rights leader said.

Buane Kabue, leader of the Zaire Human Rights League, also said at least 100 people had died in two days of rioting that began when Zairian regular army troops refused to be paid with apparently worthless \$-million.

Zaire notes newly printed at the orders of President Mobutu Sese Seko.

Mr. Kabue and others reached by phone from Brazzaville said Kinshasa was quiet Sunday morning, with little traffic. An overnight curfew has been imposed.

The French ambassador and six other foreigners were killed during the violence Thursday and Friday, and France and Belgium have sent troops to help evacuate their nationals.

Ten French soldiers arrived Friday to guard the embassy and about 60 French soldiers originally refused permission to enter Kinshasa crossed the Congo River about 10 a.m. (0900 GMT) Sunday.

Mr. Mobutu warned the Belgian soldiers not to cross the

Congo river from Brazzaville to Kinshasa, saying they did not have authority to intervene in their former colony. He said he would arrange for the evacuation of any foreigners who wanted to leave.

The presidential yacht intercepted a ferry full of Belgian refugees Saturday, forcing them to disembark and board the yacht for the 15-minute ride to Brazzaville.

Belgium and France sent soldiers to the Zairian capital in September 1991 when unpaid troops rioted, triggering the evacuation of more than 20,000 foreigners.

Zaire's already impoverished economy collapsed, but Mr. Mobutu has refused to code control of the treasury, military or other important institutions to a transitional government he appointed under pressure from his former cold war backers.

Belgium said it would keep its paratroopers in Brazzaville for the time being to avoid risking the lives of foreigners still in Kinshasa.

Opposition leaders in Brussels said Mr. Mobutu's elite Presidential Guard, armed with heavy weapons and supported by

armoured vehicles, were attacking any soldiers deemed to be loyal to the opposition.

The son of Frederic Kibassa Maliba died when soldiers fired rockets at his home in the suburb of Binza just before daybreak Sunday, said Mr. Kabue.

Mr. Kibassa is president of the Sacred Union opposition coalition which represents President Mobutu Sese Seko's archenemy, Prime Minister Etienne Tshisekedi. Mr. Kibassa is also a member of the High Council of the Republic, the country's interim legislature, which has been at loggerheads with Mr. Mobutu since convening late last year to pave the way for elections.

Mr. Kabue said soldiers Friday stormed and looted the home of Zaire's foreign minister, opposition figure Pierre Lungi, and raped Belgian nuns who lived adjacent to him. Belgium has confirmed the rape of the nuns. Mr. Lungi was unharmed.

The violence erupted when Mr. Mobutu paid troops with new bank notes — declared worthless by Mr. Tshisekedi — and they went on the rampage because merchants would not accept the currency.

At least 400 Belgian troops

were in Brazzaville, the Congolese capital across the river from Kinshasa, and 200 more were expected to arrive Sunday.

Zaire's military chiefs, in a clear warning to Belgian troops not to risk a landing, have declared a riverside area of the riot-torn capital an "operational zone".

Officials in Paris said France began evacuating about 100 nationals from Kinshasa Sunday, ferrying them under military escort across the Zaire River to Brazzaville.

After two days of looting by mutinous soldiers former colonial power Belgium rushed 300 paratroopers Saturday to Brazzaville, the Congolese capital across the river from Kinshasa.

A statement from Kinshasa's governor, read on television Saturday night, said the wealthy Gombe district was now sealed off from the rest of the city.

"Entrance from now on requires a special permit issued by the military security services," it said.

By sealing off Gombe, where the lawns of embassy compounds stretch down to the river bank, Mr. Mobutu has effectively banned any landing by the Belgians.



Croatian President Franjo Tuđman (centre) is given their offensive. Croats had formally been occupied a tour of the village of Ormo, in the Krajina region, by Serb forces during

COLUMN 10/10

Iran to hold fashion contest

NICOSIA (R) — Iran, where women have to cover up from head to toe in public, will hold an international dress design contest next month. Tehran Radio reported. The event is part of an exhibition on the status of women in Islam being held to mark the 14th anniversary of the Islamic Revolution, it quoted organiser Shahla Habibi, President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani's adviser on women's affairs, as saying. The exhibition at Tehran's Contemporary Arts Museum from Feb. 2 to 12 would also include films, photographs, a review of Iranian women's clothes in the past 200 years and a "chastity feast", the radio said without elaborating. Iranian women are required by the country's Islamic laws not to show more than their face and hands in public or wear clothes that reveal the shape of their bodies. Permissible outer garment fashion ranges from chador — a sheet of often black cloth slung over the head and reaching the ankles — to loose smock and large headscarf. Hundreds of women are rounded up each year for flouting the dress code and punished by flogging, fine or just a reprimand. But there is no restriction on what may be worn under the chador or smock. Iranian women's magazines print do-it-yourself dress patterns taken from Western publications, with the models' heads blotted out apparently to discourage foreign hairstyles.

Catholic nun ordered out of Texas town

EL PASO, Texas (R) — A 68-year-old Catholic nun ordered to leave town within 48 hours because of a feud with local church officials let the deadline pass Friday without budging from her convent. Sister Rose Michael Ibarra said the ultimatum issued by El Paso Bishop Raymundo Peña was "outrageous and unlawful." "I don't let anyone push me around," said Sister Ibarra, who has lived in the Loretto Convent in El Paso since 1967. "They can't force me out." A spokesman for the diocese, the Rev. Ed Roden-Lucero, told Reuters the nun had been asked to leave town because "Sister Rose Michael has a history of making rather serious and outrageous accusations against people in the diocese" and said that recently she staged a public demonstration accusing church officials of heresy.

Ukraine to triple fine for drunkenness

KIEV (R) — The cost of getting drunk is to triple next week in central Ukraine's Khmelnytsky district. The fine for Khmelnytsky residents who get hauled into the sobering-up station or "medical sobriety centre" will rise to 1,000 karbovanets — less than a dollar but one quarter of the monthly minimum wage, the Ukrinform News Agency said Friday. "Should persons requiring this service, or their friends or relatives wishing to take them home, also need transport, that will cost an extra 200 karbovanets. In the capital Kiev, the cost of a night in the drunk tank is even higher at 2,000 karbovanets. The sobering-up station or "vytrezvitel", an institution devised in Soviet times to combat the chronic problem of alcoholism, offers cold showers and a hard bed to inebriated "customers" brought in off the streets by police.

Annie Oakley's rifle is up for sale in London

LONDON (R) — A Winchester rifle used by Annie Oakley, the legendary American sharpshooter, is expected to fetch up to £25,000 (\$38,000) when it is auctioned by Christie's in London on March 24.

Oakley used the rare smooth-bore rifle in Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West Show, staging dazzling shooting displays that included hitting coins thrown into the air and firing at targets behind her. The gun was a gift to the vendor's grandfather and bears the inscription "presented by Annie Oakley to W.R.C. Clarke, 1891".

The members of the council urge all countries in a position to help to facilitate the provision of fuel and humanitarian assistance and call on governments in the region with a view to preventing a further deterioration of the humanitarian situation, to allow humanitarian supplies, and in particular fuel, to flow freely."

Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosian was expected to ask parliament to reopen the republic's nuclear power plant in six months. It has been closed since 1988 because of safety concerns linked to the 1988 earthquake that killed at least 25,000.

Armenian officials say the plant's reopening would help Armenia become independent of

Angolan rivals fail to agree on ceasefire

ADDIS ABABA (Agencies) — The Angolan government and its UNITA foes failed to agree on a ceasefire after four days of talks which ended Saturday but they resolved to meet again in 10 days in pursuit of peace.

A final communiqué said the two sides would meet again in the Ethiopian capital on Feb. 10 to breathe life into a 1991 peace pact which was supposed to end Angola's 16-year civil war.

"The government of Angola and UNITA express their objective to maintain and strengthen a direct political dialogue which will lead once again to the respect of the ceasefire throughout the national territory," the statement said.

But the talks failed to end battles raging on several fronts or to fix a date for the second round of presidential elections which were halted by the conflict and which had been supposed to crown a return to peace and democracy.

Margaret Anstee, the United Nations' special representative for Angola, declined to say why a ceasefire could not be reached if both sides wanted peace.

"These are very sensitive issues," she said.

Delegates said UNITA wanted the dismantling of a riot police force but had rejected a government offer to disband it and put its men under the control of the U.N. monitoring operation.

Asked why no end to the fighting could be agreed, both UNITA and government delegation chiefs said more times was needed to study the origins and implications of the conflict.

"We do not consider the next 10 days will be days of war, but of reflection to solve our problems," said UNITA's Eugenio Manuvalaka.

"This is a meeting which could bring back hope to the people of Angola. The fact that we are meeting again means a lot of hope," he added.

Government delegation leader Faustino Muteba told the same news briefing: "A complex problem requires a lot of preparation. We should not prejudice ourselves."

"We have to be very careful to allow us to build confidence so that the next meeting can go as we want."

The aim of the talks is to reinstate a 1991 peace deal which ended war between the formerly pro-Soviet Luanda government and its pro-Western UNITA enemies.

UNITA (the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) disputed the results of landmark general elections last September and at least 2,000 people have been killed in clashes between the two armies.

Meanwhile, rebels reportedly have closed in on a town in northeastern Angola that is near the country's diamond-mining region.

Government military sources Saturday said rebels appeared to be gaining ground near Saurimo, 800 kilometres away from Luanda, the capital. Saurimo is the gateway to diamond mines in northern Lunda Norte province. It was not possible to independently verify the reports of rebel movements.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Officer accused of bid to kill Yeltsin

MOSCOW (R) — An army major has been seized in government buildings in Moscow and charged with planning to kill Russian President Boris Yeltsin with a knife, ITAR-TASS News Agency said. TASS said the unnamed officer was detained by security guards as he hid in the attic of a government building early last Wednesday — a few hours before Mr. Yeltsin left Moscow on a trip to India. The man, who was armed with a knife when arrested, had intended to attack the 61-year-old Russian leader as he stepped from his car, TASS reported, quoting military prosecutors. He did not get near Mr. Yeltsin, who was preparing to leave for his trip and whose office is in the Kremlin, about 300 metres away from the Staraya Ploschad Complex where the president was waiting. TASS said the major had told military interrogators that he considered it his "military and civil duty" and his "contribution to the cause of socialism" to kill Mr. Yeltsin.

Manila: Talks with army rebels still on

MANILA (R) — Philippine Defence Secretary Renato De Villa denied Saturday that talks with army rebels had been suspended after military dissidents accused the government of reneging on an agreement to free all rightist rebels. "Our panel is resolving it. There's nothing to be excited about. The peace process will go on," Gen. De Villa told reporters. Former General Edgardo Abenina, chief negotiator for rebels responsible for three of six coup attempts since 1986, told reporters Friday talks with a government panel were called off. "Unless the government complies fully with the agreement, no talks with them will be held," Gen. Abenina declared. He also questioned whether the government panel was authorized by President Fidel Ramos to negotiate with the rebels and guarantee implementation of any agreement reached. "They have the authority of the president to be in the panel and represent the government in the talks," Gen. De Villa said.

Car bomb kills 16 in Colombia

BOGOTA (AP) — A powerful car bomb blamed on cocaine traffickers exploded Saturday in a commercial district, killing at least 16 people and injuring 33, radio reported. Police said at least four children were killed when the 220-pound (100-kg) bomb went off in an area crowded with shoppers looking for school supplies. At least 100 buildings were damaged. RCN Radio quoted prosecutors in its report on the casualties. The report could not immediately be confirmed. Bodies were strewn about in streets covered with debris and broken glass. A police officer told the Caracol Radio Network that passers-by took off their jackets to cover the dead. There was no claim of responsible for the bombing, but suspicion fell on the leader of the Medellin drug cartel, Pablo Escobar, who escaped from prison in July and later announced plans to commit terrorist acts.

16 die in Indonesia plane crash

JAKARTA (AP) — A Malaysian plane carrying Singaporeans hired to salvage oil from a ruptured supertanker crashed into a mountain in North Sumatra, killing all 16 aboard, officials said Sunday. Lt. Jaka Suprianta, a spokesman for the Search and Rescue Agency, said the aircraft was broken in pieces, and efforts were being made to evacuate the bodies from the site. The plane, carrying 11 passengers and five crew members, was reported missing shortly after it took off in bad weather Saturday. Lt. Suprianta said the plane crashed into Mount Kapur, about 110 kilometres from the north Sumatra capital of Medan and 1,500 kilometres (940 miles) northwest of Jakarta. Officials said bad weather and rugged mountain conditions had delayed rescue teams, including soldiers, in reaching the site. The Skyvan aircraft, belonging to Pan Malaysian Transport Pte. Ltd., took off from Medan Airport and crashed about 30 minutes later, they said. The plane was on its way to Banda Aceh, the capital of Aceh province.

15 hurt in Singapore Hilton fire

SINGAPORE (R) — A fire at Singapore's Hotel Hilton International injured 15 people, a civil defence spokesman said. "Fifteen people, including some hotel guests and staff, mostly suffering from smoke inhalation, were sent to hospital," he told a news conference. The fire, reported at around 8 a.m. (Friday midnight GMT) and extinguished two hours later, originated in the hotel's electrical room on the second floor, he said. Earlier, a civil defence spokeswoman said the fire broke out following an explosion at the hotel's switchroom. A police spokesman said he did not suspect arson or foul play. "The fire could be of an electrical origin," he said.

Lung recipient is in good condition

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A woman whose life was saved when her parents donated parts of their lungs in a landmark transplant operation was in good condition, as were her parents, a doctor said. Stacy Sewell, 22, was taken off a respirator and was resting in an intensive care ward separated from her father's room by a glass wall, said Dr. Robbin Cohen, who assisted Dr. Vaughn Starnes in the surgeries. "She is awake, alert, and feels wonderful at being able to take a deep breath," Dr. Cohen said. "She's looking very strong. We're cautiously, extremely optimistic." Before the operation Miss Sewell, whose lungs were ravaged by cystic fibrosis, was expected to live about a week, doctors said. Her parents, James Sewell, 55, and Barbara Sewell, 49, were to be released in four to five days, doctors said. Miss Sewell had received parts of her parents' lungs during Friday's surgery.

Kenya train crash toll reaches 140

DARAJANI, Kenya (R) — At least 140 people have been killed and more than 200 are missing in Kenya's worst train crash.

Search teams said Sunday they had found only two survivors from five submerged coaches of the Mombasa-Nairobi train that plunged off a bridge into a flooded river called God Save Us. Part of the train was washed up to 1.5 kilometres downstream and officials said divers were searching for more bodies that had been carried away or were still trapped under wreckage.

Kenya Railways Corporation Chairman Jeremiah Musuvi said only about 200 of the train's 600 passengers had been accounted for.

"I am afraid there are two tourists killed but we have not begun identifying victims in earnest yet. We are just cutting out the bodies," a police spokesman said. One foreign victim was identified as Canadian and the other as European.

Authorities said a final death toll would not be known for at least two days.

But a police official said Sunday his team had already checked through all the submerged coaches.

Police Commissioner Philip Kilonzo said many more survivors may have walked away from the crash scene.

The bridge, battered by floods caused by fierce unseasonal rains, collapsed under the weight of the train.

A quick-thinking ticket inspector yanked an emergency cord and uncoupled third class coaches as the locomotive and the front coaches crashed into the river.

One coach teetered on the remains of the bridge halfway between water and land.

Dozens killed by snowstorms, avalanches in Caucasus

TBILISI, Georgia (AP) — Dozens of people have been killed by Thursday's snowstorm in the Gudauri region also died.

Meanwhile, 150 vehicles remained stranded Saturday by a snowstorm that has hit a mountain pass linking Georgia with neighbouring Armenia. One driver has died, ITAR-TASS News Agency said.

Sergei Shioigu, the head of the Russian Government Committee on Emergency Situations, said nearly 40 people have died in North Ossetia, an area of the Russian northern Caucasus.

"We have found 17 bodies and know that another 19 people have died," he told the Commonwealth Television.

A succession of six massive avalanches, caused by thawing snow, hit the Trans-Caucasian Highway in North Ossetia Wednesday, about 50 kilometres southwest of the region's capital, Vladikavkaz.

Mr. Shioigu said four rescue teams were trying to reach two groups of people who remained stranded on the road. One group included 44 people, including eight wounded, and another 150 people, he said.